GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2665
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PRODUCTION OF FILMS
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Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of films produced in a year in the country;

(b) the revenue earned by the Government through film industry;

(c) the number of persons directly and indirectly employed by film industry; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for promotion of film industry?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING & CULTURE (SHRI S.JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) and (b) The film industry in India is in the private sector and the Government does not maintain any statistics in this regard.

However, according to the information received from Film Federation of India (FFI), the apex body representing the film industry in India, on an average 800 feature films are produced in the country every year. Further, according to information received from Central Board of Film Certification, a total of 877 Indian feature films on celluloid format were certified during the year 2003 and 751 Indian feature films on celluloid formats were certified during the year 2004 upto 31.10.2004.

Film Industry is subjected to Entertainment Tax by the State Governments. The Central Government does not earn any revenue from the Film Industry through any direct or specific levy, except under the Central Excise and Income Tax laws.

(c) According to information received from FFI, approximately 10 lakh persons are employed directly and approximately 40 lakhs persons are employed indirectly in the film sector.

(d) The Government has taken several initiatives to bring about changes in the entertainment sector in the interest of overall development of this sector.

? Institutional and bank financing are now accessible to the entertainment industry.
? 100% Foreign Direct Investment is permissible in the film sector.
? Government has led participation in global markets with a view to enhancing visibility of film industry.
? Film weeks and festivals are held on reciprocal basis with various countries.
? Audiovisual co production agreements with other countries are being explored to expand avenues of finances and markets for the Indian film industry.
? The Committee for Development of the Entertainment Sector, a sub-committee of the State Information Ministers` Conference (SIMCON), set up to suggest a policy framework for the film industry has recommended reduction of entertainment tax; steps to counter piracy in the film sector, measures to facilitate foreign film shooting in India etc.
? A Venture Capital Committee which was set up to suggest a strategy to facilitate the flow of venture capital into the sector has submitted its recommendations.
? The National Film Development Corporation, a public sector unit under this Ministry provides limited funding for films and oversees the integrated growth of the film industry in tune with objectives of the national economic policy.